

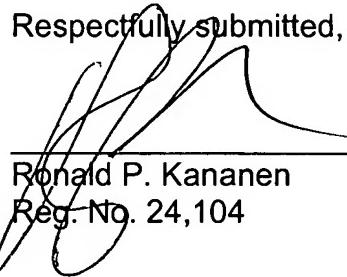
**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is requested to cancel claims 14-17, 32, 35-37, 42, 52, 55-57, 59-60, 62, 82-87, 120-125, and 149-154 without prejudice or disclaimer of their underling subject matter, and to accurately identify the drawings. No new matter has been added.

Entry of this amendment and favorable examination of the above-identified application is courteously solicited.

Date: February 24, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

  
Ronald P. Kananen  
Reg. No. 24,104

**RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC**  
Lion Building  
1233 20th Street, N.W., Suite 501  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Tel: (202) 955-3750  
Fax: (202) 955-3751  
Customer No. 23353